

Message Text

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41

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 EURE-00 DRC-01 SP-03 EB-11 INR-10

SS-20 NSC-07 NSCE-00 TRSE-00 COME-00 AGR-20 STR-08

SSO-00 INRE-00 RSC-01 L-03 /124 W

----- 087467

O 301449Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 946

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION OECD PARIS IMMEDIATE

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 3607

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, EEC, BE

SUBJECT: ARTICLE XXIV:6

REF: A. GRANT/LANDE TELCON MAY 30; B. BRUSSELS 3509

1. ON LEARNING THIS MORNING THAT BELGIANS WERE STILL RESISTING AGREEMENT TO COMMISSION PACKAGE WE CALLED ON NOTERDAEME, FONMIL CHEF DE CABINET, AND HIS ASSOCIATE THYSBAERT. WE CITED STATEMENT MADE BY NOTERDAEME DURING OUR MEETING MAY 28 THAT BELGIUM ONLY NEEDED GESTURE ON ONE OF THE THREE INDUSTRIAL ITEMS OF CONCERN TO THE BELGIANS TO AGREE TO THE COMMISSION'S PACKAGE. WE SAID THAT WITH GREAT DIFFICULTY WE HAD RAISED THE CUT-OFF POINT ON OUTBOARD MOTORS FROM 250 CC TO 325 CC. THIS INCLUDED AN ENGINE SIZE OF
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TRADE INTEREST TO U.S. INDUSTRY AND WE CONSIDERED THIS A

SIGNIFICANT CONCESSION. WE NOTED THAT THIS WAS THE ONLY SUBSTANTIVE CONCESSION WHICH THE U.S. HAD MADE TO ANY COUNTRY AND THAT THIS WAS MADE TO MEET BELGIUM'S STATED DESIRES. SINCE WE HAD COMPLIED WITH WHAT THEY HAD SAID THEY WISHED, WE WERE DISTURBED TO LEARN THAT THE BELGIANS STILL HAD NOT BEEN WILLING TO COME TO AN AGREEMENT.

2. NOTERDAEME REPLIED THAT ACCORDING TO HIS INFORMATION THE UNITED STATES HAD NOT MADE ANY CONCESSIONS AT ALL. HE SAID HE WOULD IMMEDIATELY CHECK WITH APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES TO SEE WHAT COULD BE DONE.

3. SUBSEQUENT TO MEETING, THYSBAERT PHONED TO SAY THEY HAD CHECKED WITH THEIR EXPERTS AND THAT WHILE THEY HAD CONFIRMED THAT THE U.S. HAD INDEED RAISED THE CUT-OFF POINT FROM 250 CC TO 325 CC, THE BELGIAN GOVERNMENT DID NOT CONSIDER THIS WAS SIGNIFICANT IN TERMS OF TRADE INTEREST. IT DID NOT COVER THE 20 TO 25 HORSEPOWER CATEGORIES. THIS REACTION WOULD BE REFLECTED IN THEIR POSITION IN THE PERM REPS MEETING THIS AFTERNOON. WE AGAIN STRESSED THAT IN OUR VIEW THIS CHANGE DID CONSTITUTE A SIGNIFICANT AND DIFFICULT CONCESSION FROM OUR ORIGINAL REQUEST. WE HOPED THIS WOULD BE RECOGNIZED BY THE BELGIANS.
BOOCHEVER

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